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## Botanical Notes.

*Dermatiscum*.—In a note just received from Dr. Nylander, he informs me that the Lichen referred to in the July BULLETIN was called by him *Dermatiscum porcellaneum*. But I think I am not responsible for the misspelling, though the error is of less consequence, as the plant must be known as *D. Catawbense*, (Willey) Nyl., that name having been first published.

*Nylander's Synopsis*, VOL. II. I have recently received a copy of Fascicle 1, Vol. II. of this work. It contains 68 pages, breaks off abruptly and is without date, but appears to have been issued about or before 1883. It covers *Pyxine*, *Umbilicaria*, *Psoroma*, *Gymnoderma*, *Pannaria*, *Coccocarpia*, (these Genera, so far as American, being included by Tuckerman in *Pannaria*), *Heppia*, *Erioderma*, *Cora*, (this, however, in a note being referred to the Verrucariæ near *Normandina*) *Dichonema*, *Amphiloma* (*Pannaria* of Tuck.), *Parmeliopsis*, (*Parmelia* and *Cetraria* § Tuck., Syn.), *Squamaria* (*Lecanora* § Tuck). Under *Umbilicaria* is a species, *U. dictyiza*, Nyl., described as similar to *U. pustulata*, but the thallus obscurely cinereous and reticulate-rugose between the papulæ, the fruit small and often agglomerate. It is said to occur on mountain rocks, from North Carolina to Newfoundland. I have not seen it and it is not noticed by Tuckerman.

It is an error to say (p. 34) that *Pannaria leucosticta* is an earth Lichen. It occurs only on rock and bark, and is hardly a sub-species of *P. lepidiota*.

Under *Heppia* is *H. planescens*, Nyl., "the thallus glaucous-cinerascent, squamose, smooth, opaque, sub-plane, large," fruit unknown. On earth from Texas, sent by Tuckerman, who does not notice the plant in his synopsis; probably the absence of fruit rendered it difficult for him to determine its true place.

*Erioderma Wrightii*, Tuck., is cited from Mexico.

*Parmeliopsis Wrightii*, on p. 56, cited from Tuck. Obs. is *Physcidia Wrightii*, Tuck. Obs., 1862, p. 400. *P. squamulosa*, Tuck., in the following page of the same, is noted in my copy in the author's writing, as "a remarkable variety but not a species," and in a letter to myself he referred the genus to the vicinity of *Pannaria*.

H. WILLEY.

In the report of the Proceedings of the Club, it is stated in the September BULLETIN that Dr. Newberry had not met with *Liquidambar* in Ohio. I have seen several specimens within a few miles of Oxford, Ohio, and in the vicinity of Cincinnati. It is abundant in Kentucky and in southern Indiana. It has been planted extensively in some of the suburbs of Cincinnati and grows well.

It is also stated in the same number, by C. F. Millspaugh, that the usual habitat of *Oxalis violacea* is on rocks. Where I have seen it growing, in southern Ohio, it has almost invariably been in leafy mould in shaded, damp woods.

JOSEPH F. JAMES.

*Some Stations for Plants from Kansas.*—The following plants were collected during a recent trip: *Argemone platyceras*, Link and Otto., Larned to Comanche; *Cleomella angustifolia*, Torrey, Larned, Kingman and Wichita; *Polanisia uniglandulosa*, DC., Wichita; *Sapindus marginatus*, Willd., a tree twenty-five feet high and nine inches in diameter, on the Medicine River, thirty miles west of Medicine Lodge; *Stenosiphon virgatum*, Spach., Comanche; *Mentzelia albicaulis*, Douglas, Comanche; *Vernonia Baldwinii*, Torrey, not as common as in Eastern Kansas (in the Catalogue of Kansas Plants this species appears as *V. Novboracensis*, var. *latifolia*, Gray); *Eustoma Russellianum*, Griseb., Great Bend; *Stillingia sylvatica*, L., Wichita; *Juniperus Virginiana*, L., Comanche County, thirty miles west of Medicine Lodge.

J. H. OYSTER, M. D.

*The Ancient Cities of the New World*—Desiré Charnay. (Gard. Chron., i., p. 809, June 18th, 1887) In reviewing this work, particular attention is given to the statement that the concentric circles of the mahogany and other trees correspond rather to months than years, thus invalidating the calculations of the age of many of the Central American ruins.

*Sorghum vulgare*, L., as a Drug.—A new application is reported for that plant of varied utility, *Sorghum vulgare*, L. Dr. A. A. Coleman, of Crawford, Miss., reports that the seeds, of which he sends a sample, and which are those called "chick-seeds," are astringent and hemostatic. An infusion is used by

the country people as a remedy for dysentery, and to arrest bleeding externally. There is no published analysis of the constituents of these seeds, but the effects are evidently due to a considerable quantity of tannin which they contain. H. H. R.

*The death of Dr. Georg Winter* is announced as having taken place August the 17th, 1887, at Connewitz, near Leipzig. This will be a serious blow to Cryptogamic Botany, as he was editor of *Hedwigia* and had charge of the Section dealing with the Fungi in Rabenhorst's *Kryptogamen Flora von Deutschland*.

*The Herbarium of Professor Henry H. Babcock* has been presented to the Northwestern University at Evanston, Ill., by Mrs. Babcock. It is said to contain more than 10,000 species, the greater number mounted and accessible.

*Brown University* has recently received the gift of a valuable herbarium from Mr. E. R. Brownell, of Hartford, Conn. It was the property of C. M. Brownell, M.D., deceased, who was a devoted botanist. The collection contains about 2,500 species from Germany, Cuba, Russia, and the United States, especially Florida. It includes many duplicates, and the Cuban specimens are wholly unnamed. (W. W. Bailey. Annual Report Brown Univ., 1887.)

*On the History of Botany in Japan*—By Tokutaro Ito, F.L.S. (Journ. Bot., xxv., pp. 225-229; with portrait.) These remarks are intended as supplementary to the paper on the "Progress of Botany in Japan," by F. V. Dickins, published in the Journal of Botany for May. The portrait is that of Ito Keisuke, the grandfather of Tokutaro Ito, and a brief account of his works in botany is also given.

*Eleocharis*, R. Br., *Species in Europa vigentes recensuit C. B. Clarke*. Mr. Clarke recognizes eight species of *Heleocharis* as European. *H. palustris*, R. Br., *H. ovata*, R. Br., (*H. obtusa*, Schultes), *H. atropurpurea*, Kunth, of general tropical distribution, and *H. acicularis*, R. Br., are also found in North America. There is also a *H. palustris*, var. *Watsoni*, from Scotland, Newfoundland, Labrador and Subarctic America. (Journ. Bot., xxv., pp. 267-271).  
N. L. B.